(a) when was the gauge conversion work of Morbi-Vankaner in Gujarat completed;

(b) the number of metre gauge trains that were available for the people of Morbi prior to gauge conversion; and

(c) whether it is a fact that the passengers from Morbi town are facing great difficulties due to non-availability of direct broad gauge train services from Morbi?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The gauge conversion of Morbi-Wankaner section was completed on 25.07.2001.

(b) and (c) Prior to gauge conversion of Morbi and Wankaner, four pairs of Rail Bus services were running on the section. At present, six pairs of Diesel Multiple Unit services are running in the section, which is considered sufficient for the present level of traffic.

Gauge conversion work between Patan-Mehsana

3388. SHRI PRAVEEN RASHTRAPAL: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) when was the gauge conversion work between Patan-Mehsana in North Gujarat completed;

(b) the number of metre gauge trains running between Patan-Ahmedabad prior to gauge conversion; and

(c) the situation at present regarding trains services between Patan-Mehsana and Patan-Ahmedabad in Gujarat?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The gauge conversion of Patan- Mehasana section was completed and commissioned on 14.02.2009.

(b) Prior to gauge conversion of Ahemedabad- Mehasana- Patan metre gauge section, 6 pairs of trains were running on the section.

(c) At present, 5 pairs of trains are running on newly converted section of Mehasana-Patan and one pair is running between Patan- Ahmedabad.

Dedicated freight corridor

3389. SHRI PARIMAL NATHWANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether to create capacity and improve quality of freight service, dedicated freight corridor projects are under implementation by Railways;

(b) if so, the targets set and achievements made, so far; and

(c) in what manner the slippages are being addressed by Railways?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir. Dedicated Freight Corridor Project comprising the Eastern Corridor (Ludhiana-Dankuni) and the